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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF

BENNINGTON, N. H.

MARCH 1, 1875.

PETERBORO':

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1875.

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SCHOOL REPORT.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

John F. Dodge, Prudential Committee.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

The first, second and third terms of this department were under the management of Miss Elizabeth Ayles as instructor. To feed, develop and strengthen the little minds, and keep cheerful the loving little hearts, is a qualification but few possess. But we take pleasure in saying that this teacher possessed all these requisites in a remarkable degree. Order without wearisome restraint, made the school room seem pleasant to the scholars and to the visitors that entered there. One case only of insubordination in the winter term came to the knowledge of your committee. The teacher remarks, at the close of the third term, "that the term was a successful and profitable one, and the school would rank second to none of its grade in the State."

GRAMMAR SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

Spring Term. Ellen F. Goodwin, Teacher.

A pleasant and successful term. An experienced teacher, earnest and faithful in her labors. It seemed

to be her desire to instil *principles* into the minds of her scholars, rather than have them repeat words. Her instruction was solid and substantial, and the improvement real. The school closed with a public examination, and every one present united in saying a good work had been done.

Summer Term. Serena P. Whitney, Teacher.

An excellent teacher, a good disciplinarian, and her long experience in teaching was brought to bear most successfully upon this school. She engaged in the work with ardor and fidelity, and was enabled to conduct her scholars rapidly along their course of study. It is scarcely necessary to say that the term was productive of none but gratifying results.

Winter Term. Charles T. Cragin, Teacher.

The winter term, taught by Mr. Charles T. Cragin, was productive of good results. The teacher was endowed with superior mental qualifications, which, with the kind and gentlemanly spirit manifested by him at all times, secured the good will of every scholar under his charge. Hence the school was characterized by good order, and a good feeling at all times existed between teacher and scholars. Where this feeling prevails, we always find an earnest attention to study, and a marked improvement in the various branches taught. The examination at the close of the term showed a thoroughness of instruction rarely excelled.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Levi Colby, Prudential Committee.

Leona Chaney, Teacher.

The summer and winter terms of this school were under the instruction of Miss Leona Chaney. A young teacher, but one possessing capabilities of imparting instruction, and making a quiet, orderly, and well-managed school. The progress made was satisfactory, and much practical knowledge acquired by the few scholars under her charge.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Horace Rogers, Prudential Committee.

This district, being united with Greenfield, had but one term of eleven and one-half weeks. It was taught by Miss Mary E. Robertson, a teacher very well qualified to instruct. The school appeared to have made good progress during the term. If a little more attention had been paid to discipline, the school would have appeared much better. Good order appears to be too much neglected in our small schools.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Henry Newton, Prudential Committee.

Only one term, taught by Miss Sarah L. Wilson. A short but profitable term to the three scholars under her charge, or would have been, had they attended every day. But when one-fourth part of the time in the register is marked *absent*, it shows that some-

thing is radically wrong somewhere. *Parents*, see to it. Are you aware of the injury the irregularity of attendance does to your children, and the annoyance it gives to the teacher.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

To-day, this second Tuesday of March, brings us to the close of another school year. And I can truly say that of the hopes and expectations we entertained at the commencement, many, very many, of them have been realized. The schools have had able instructors—teachers that shrank not from their duty, that devoted their best energies to the instruction of their schools—and scholars that took hold of their studies with a determination to accomplish the tasks set before them. The parents, likewise, in and out of the school room, aided and encouraged the teachers and pupils in the work in which they were engaged. When these three elements are combined—parents, teachers and pupils—success is always certain. Perhaps in no former year has the standard of our schools been higher, or the work that has been done more thorough, than the past year. “*Not how much, but how well,*” has been the motto of teachers and scholars. But although we have been successful this year, let us by no means relax our efforts

Let our watchword be *improvement*, and let the experiences of the past year provoke to emulation. A desire to excel in this direction is praiseworthy, and rivalry in this cause is innocent.

I deem it necessary in this report to point out a few improvements which can and ought to be made. Districts Nos. 2 and 4 should be united, thus giving to every scholar double the advantages they now possess. This can be done with little expense of time or money, and the advantages resulting would be more than doubled.

Owing to the extreme cold of the past winter, the number of tardy marks is larger than last year, but most of them are set against the names of two or three scholars living remote from the school house. The number of visitors to the schools has increased about thirty per cent. The following scholars, whose names are on the roll of honor, were neither absent nor tardy during the year.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Henry A. George,	Lonny George,
Charles W. Garside,	Nellie Payrow,
Fred Wilson,	Freddie Ross,
Mamie Blanchard,	Eddie Whitney,
Hillie Burt,	Willie Whitney,
Nanny Dickey,	Gracie Wilson,
Fred Garside,	Herbert Wilson,
Eddie George,	Mamie Wilson,
Harry Knights,	Mamie Woods.

In closing this report and our connection with the schools, we desire to express our thanks to parents, teachers and scholars, who have helped make our duties so pleasant, and for the uniform kindness and respect shown us during the year.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. FLEMING.

Bennington, March 1, 1875.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1875.

The Selectmen to the Town,

DR.		
To State Bonds on hand,	\$2900	00
Tax on H. H. Duncklee's list not collected,	25	25
“ F. M. Hill's “ “	241	81
“ Nathan Whitney's “ “	3947	97— \$7115 03
Cr.		
By State Bonds on hand,	\$1000	00
Tax on H. H. Duncklee's list,	25	25
“ F. M. Hill's “ “	107	59
Abatement on F. M. Hill's list,	21	26
State Bonds sold and paid to Treasurer,	1900	00
Paying Treasurer from Hill's list,	112	96
“ “ Whitney's list,	3419	11
Abatement from Whitney's list,	16	06
Uncollected tax on “	512	80— \$7115 03

WILLIAM EATON, Treasurer, to the Town,

DR.		
To State Bonds sold,	\$1900	00
Interest on State bonds,	134	03
Tax from F. M. Hill's list,	112	96
Money in treasury March 1, 1874,	526	12
Cash of A. W. Gray for use of hall,	18	15
Savings bank tax,	326	80
Railroad tax,	26	28
Literary fund,	52	89
Tax from Whitney's list,	3419	11— \$6516 34

The Treasurer is credited with paying the following sums:

By paying State tax,	\$580	00
County tax,	328	06
Non-resident highway tax receipts,	137	55
“ receipts on Hill's list,	24	91— \$1070 52

SCHOOL ORDERS.

District No. 1, John F. Dodge,	\$593 66	
“ “ 2, Levi Colby,	81 51	
“ “ 3, Horace Rogers,	39 08	
“ “ 4, Henry Newton,	31 19—	\$745 39

SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

Paid to of Sutton for boarding Pamela Barker,	\$28 15	
John Emery, for Mrs. Barker,	60 00	
S. B. Otis, for support of C. M. Burt,	109 00	
M. M. George, for boarding Mrs. Wilson,	114 00	
Mrs. Nichols, for boarding Mrs. Page,	24 00	
G. B. Page, for boarding Mrs. Page,	27 00	
John Goodhue, keeping transient,	75	
Luther Chaney, keeping transient,	2 50—	\$360 40

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid J. B. Woodbury for nails,	\$1 25	
Wm. Taylor, snowing bridge, plank and work,	6 45	
John Flagg, bridge plank,	57 84	
Abram Burt, work on bridge,	6 63	
J. W. Flagg, work on bridge,	6 00	
Levi Colby, work on bridge,	8 00	
Luther Chaney, work on bridge,	3 53	
B. D. Felch, railing for bridge.	4 50	
John Goodhue, cutting bushes on road,	19 00	
Wm. L. Taylor, plank,	9 25	
Wm. H. Darrah, work and lumber,	6 93	
Wm. L. Taylor, work,	1 36—	\$130 79

BREAKING ROADS.

Paid John Carkin in 1873,	\$5 25	
Samuel Abbott,	1 50	
Wm. Taylor,	1 00	
J. C. Dodge,	3 60	
Levi Colby,	10 20	
Benjamin Bullard,	8 10	
James E. Favor,	6 74	
John Goobhue,	4 60	
Armond C. Bullard,	2 20	
Kendall Gray,	80	
Lewis A. Knight,	1 25	
Alfred Rogers,	1 25	
Benjamin D. Felch,	3 60	
Wm. L. Taylor,	3 75	
Benjamin Bullard,	2 80	
David Roach,	1 90	
Wm. H. Thomas,	4 00	
Loren Flanders,	1 00	
Wm. H. Darrah,	1 40—	\$64 94

NOTES AND INTEREST PAID.

John D. Butler, on note,	\$200 00	
Wm. B. Walker,	114 88	
Milton McCoy,	472 81	

Wm. B. Walker,	52 00	
Wm. B. Walker,	50 50	
Abram Burt, interest on note,	12 00	
Edwin T. Adams,	499 65	
Harriet Smiley,	298 00	
Caroline Bell,	304 88	
S. Hutchinson,	234 45	
Charles Gray,	130 40	
Wm. L. Taylor,	100 00	
Emerson Favor,	31 66	
Wm. B. Walker,	45 00	
Wm. L. Taylor,	150 00	
On Congregational Society's note,	12 00	
Wm. Eaton,	300 00	
David Rogers,	28 65	
John D. Butler,	81 43	
Emerson Favor,	30 00—	\$3148 31

MONEY PAID TOWN OFFICERS.

John Goodhue, 1st Selectman,	\$28 25	
Benj. D. Felch, 2d Selectman,	31 00	
James E. Favor, 3d Selectman.	27 00	
John H. Fleming, Superintending School Committee,	16 00	
Augustus W. Gray, Town Clerk,	12 00	
Wm. Eaton, Treasurer,	15 00	
Nathan Whitney, Collector,	32 60	
John F. Dodge, Assessor,	10 00	
Kendall Gray, “	9 00	
I. W. Sweetser, “	9 00	
John Goodhue, Overseer of the Poor,	5 50	
Augustus W. Gray, Auditor,	3 00	
John H. Fleming, “	3 00—	\$201 35

MISCELLANEOUS TOWN EXPENSES.

Farnum & Scott, printing town reports,	\$20 00	
Printing school records,	2 00	
J. C. Dodge, sheep killed by dogs,	19 00	
James E. Favor, labor on Pound,	5 00	
J. D. Butler, cost of town suit in the case of Ben- nington vs. Gray,	136 35	
Levi Colby, sheep killed by dogs,	12 00	
John Goodhue, “	7 00	
Morrill & Silsby bill,	6 71	
F. M. Hills, tolling bell,	1 25	
C. E. Eaton, horse-hire,	7 25	
M. M. George, care of fire engine,	25 00	
Wm. Eaton, journey to Concord,	2 00	
A. W. Gray, care of town hall,	12 15	
B. D. Felch, work on Pound,	1 50	
John Goodhue, stationery,	1 05	
Nathan Whitney, lamb killed by dog,	1 50	
George E. Colby, sheep “	5 00	
Paying enginemen,	77 00	
A. Whittemore, for rent of engine house,	72 00—	\$413 76

RECAPITULATION.

Money and receipts put into the Treasurer's hands from March 1, 1874, to March 1, 1875,	\$6516 34
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We credit the Treasurer by paying the following sums:

By paying State and County tax,	\$908 06	
Non-resident highway receipts,	162 46	
School orders,	745 39	
Support of paupers,	360 40	
Repairing roads and bridges,	130 79	
Breaking roads,	64 94	
Notes and interest paid,	3148 31	
Miscellaneous expenses,	413 76	
Money paid town officers,	201 35—	\$6135 46
Leaving a balance in the treasury of		\$ 380 88

TOWN LIABILITIES.

David Rogers, note dated	Nov. 4, 1868,	\$ 150 00
Sarah West,	March 11, 1871,	151 87
"	Feb. 20, 1871,	226 88
Abram Burtt,	Aug. 30, 1871,	206 39
Kendall Gray,	Sept. 21, 1871,	207 83
John W. Flagg,	Jan. 2, 1871,	1274 87
C. S. A. Hodskins,	Jan. 5, 1871,	279 89
Mary E. Bell,	July 29, 1871,	123 27
Alfred Rogers,	July 31, 1871,	552 54
Susan Pitcher,	Aug. 24, 1871,	159 63
Emerson Favor,	March 1, 1875,	150 00
Sarah M. Taylor,	Sept. 19, 1871,	316 62
Dorcas Flagg,	Feb. 10, 1872,	1115 53
John D. Butler,	Feb. 23, 1872,	1000 00
Isaac Proctor,	Feb. 19, 1872,	72 14
William Taylor,	Feb. 26, 1872,	281 50
Lydia Pollard,	Nov. 11, 1872,	128 54
Congregational Society,	Feb. 6, 1867,	200 78
Betsey Burtt,	Oct. 30, 1869,	239 16
Mary C. Eaton,	April 8, 1870,	39 85
Wesley Wilson,	April 5, 1872,	284 24
Susan Pitcher,	April 16, 1872,	83 91
Rachel Wilson,	March 1, 1874,	265 00
John W. Flagg,	Feb. 28, 1873,	280 90
William Eaton,	March 31, 1873,	146 72
"	Nov. 1, 1873,	895 28
Josie M. Taylor,	Nov. 18, 1873,	431 67
John A. Whittemore,	Jan. 28, 1874,	533 65
George E. Hills,	" "	133 15
John D. Butler,	Feb. 24, 1874,	357 33
William B. Walker,	" "	378 69
Lydia Pollard,	April 15, 1874,	1043 56
Mary E. Dodge,	March 1, 1875,	411 14
S. Abbott,	Jan. 8, 1875,	70 97

\$12,192 53
\$12,192 53

Town liabilities,

Available assets:

State Bonds,	\$1000 00	
Tax on H. H. Duncklee's list,	25 25	
Tax on F. M. Hill's list,	107 69	
Tax on Nathan Whitney's list,	512 80	
Balance in treasury,	380 88—	\$2,026 62

Total indebtedness of the town, \$10,165 91

Reduction of debt from last year,

\$685 60

We have examined the above report of the Selectmen and Treasurer, and find it accurately cast and properly vouched.

JOHN H. FLEMING, }
AUGUSTUS W. GRAY, } Auditors.

LIST OF DELINQUENT TAX-PAYERS ON NATHAN WHITNEY'S
LIST OF 1874.

John D. Cooper,	\$15 69	William Gillis,	27 17
Nathaniel E. Dickey,	5 55	David Roach,	4 48
Robert E. Dickey,	2 23	James Foote,	5 33
Patrick Foley,	2 23	Edward E. Smith,	2 12
Alfred Gray,	12 13	Frank S. Smith,	5 22
George Holt,	3 23	Joel B. Smith,	1 95
Charles Jenkins,	3 80	Non-Residents.	
David H. Jones,	3 34	Jacob Brown,	1 25
William Phelps,	4 59	Taylor D. Lakin,	81 68
Mrs. Lucretia Russell,	8 90	George J. Whittemore,	22 28
Lorenzo D. Richardson,	4 92	Daw & Roach,	9 31
Edward Stevens,	2 23	George Dresser,	6 60
Jefferson Shea,	18 35	John D. Hardy,	2 78
George W. Wilson,	6 18		
Armond C. Bullard,	1 70		
Lorin H. Flanders,	20 45		

REPORT OF THE SEXTON OF THE TOWN OF BENNINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 22, 1875.

NAMES.	AGE.	DIED.	DISEASE.	PLACE OF INTERMENT.
	y. m. d.	1874.		
Luther Newton,	86	April 23.	Old Age.	Bennington.
Lucretia Russell,	86 5	Oct. 11.	Erysipelas.	Francesto'n.

The following persons have been brought to Bennington for interment:

*Rosabelle Cilley.	1 6	March 1.	Cholera Infantum.	Bennington.
†Ada L. Johnson,	1 6	April 6.	Convulsions.	Bennington.

*Died in East Sullivan, N. H. †Died in Lowell, Mass.

F. M. HILLS, Sexton.

